

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 06973 172015Z

63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /146 W

----- 116268

R 171844Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7999

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 6973

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT/CI/MX

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH EX-CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO

1. SEPTEMBER 17 EXCELSIOR CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH HUGO VIGORENA RAMIREZ WHO RESIGNED AS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO FOLLOWING CHILEAN COUP. VIGORENA HAD BEEN AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT SEPTEMBER 16 TO GREET ALLENDE'S WIDOW. HE WAS PICTURED PROMINENTLY IN COMPANY WITH PRESIDENT AND MRS. ECHEVERRIA. LIKEWISE, DESPITE HIS RESIGNATION, HE EVIDENTLY IS STILL OCCUPYING RESIDENCE.

2. IN HIS REMARKS TO EXCELSIOR, VIGORENA SAID THAT HE "HAD PROOF" THAT CIA WAS INVOLVED IN ALLENDE OUSTER. HE STATED THAT A PLAN KNOWN AS "OPERATION CENTAUR" HAD BEEN DRAWN UP MORE THAN TWO YEARS AGO; THE PROOF OF CIA INVOLVEMENT "UNFORTUNATELY FELL INTO OUR HANDS TOO LATE". LATER IN INTERVIEW HE STATED THAT DETAILS OF "OPERATION CENTAUR" HAD BECOME KNOWN TO CHILEANS ABOUT A MONTH AND A HALF AGO. IT WAS "EVIDENTLY THE PURPOSE OF THE CIA TO DEPOSE PRESIDENT ALLENDE AND THIS PLAN HAD A DECIDED INFLUENCE IN THE FINAL RESULTS"; VIGORENA STATED THAT ALLENDE KNEW OF THE PLAN. EX-AMBASSADOR DECLINED TO GIVE ANY DETAILS "BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY PERSONS INVOLVED AND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 06973 172015Z

IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS AT THIS MOMENT TO MENTION THEIR

NAMES". HE CITED AS EVIDENCE OF CIA INVOLVEMENT REPORTS THAT WASHINGTON KNEW OF PENDING COUP SOME 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE, FACT THAT AMBASSADOR DAVIS HAD MADE A QUICK TRIP TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY BEFORE COUP, AND FACT THAT FOUR US WAR VESSELS HAD BEEN OFF CHILEAN COAST "SUPPOSEDLY FOR ANNUAL MANEUVERS WITH CHILEAN NAVY". VIGORENA SURMISED THAT PLAN HAD BEEN TO OUST ALLENDE DURING HIS ATTENDANCE AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE BUT THAT WHEN HE DECIDED NOT TO GO, PLAN HAD TO BE MODIFIED.

3. SEPTEMBER 15 EL SOL REPORTED THAT VIGORENA IS CONSULTING WITH OTHER ALLENDE-APPOINTED COLLEAGUES IN CENTRAL AMERICA ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A "GOVERNMENT IN EXILE" IN MEXICO. ADMITTEDLY, THIS STEP WOULD DEPEND, AMONG OTHER FACTORS, ON GOM ATTITUDE TOWARDS NEW REGIME.

4. DEPARTMENT PASS SANTIAGO AS DESIRED.  
DEAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, OPERATION CENTAUR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1973  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MEXICO06973  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MEXICO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730930/aaaaavzi.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERVIEW WITH EX-CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO  
**TAGS:** PINT, CI, MX, US, CIA, (VIGORENA RAMIREZ, HUGO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005